

Standpipe
Hanson Street and Mill Place
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-438

1886

Made of riveted wrought iron plates, the standpipe was constructed in 1886 by the privately owned Easton Water Company, as a part of a comprehensive improvement program to provide water for domestic use and for use in fighting fires. Resembling a Roman Doric column topped with a crown-like cresting, the structure is one hundred feet high and fourteen feet in diameter. The standpipe is now owned by the Town of Easton and is still in use.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2104383634

T 438

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Standpipe

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Hanson Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

— DISTRICT

— BUILDING(S)

☒ STRUCTURE

— SITE

— OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC

— PRIVATE

— BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

— IN PROCESS

— BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

— UNOCCUPIED

— WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

— YES: RESTRICTED

☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED

— NO

PRESENT USE

— AGRICULTURE

— MUSEUM

— COMMERCIAL

— PARK

— EDUCATIONAL

— PRIVATE RESIDENCE

— ENTERTAINMENT

— RELIGIOUS

— GOVERNMENT

— SCIENTIFIC

— INDUSTRIAL

— TRANSPORTATION

— MILITARY

☒ OTHER: utility

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Town of Easton, Utilities Company

Telephone #: 301-822-6110

STREET & NUMBER

219 North Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

T-438

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☒ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The standpipe is the tallest structure in Easton and the most visible. It stands at Hanson Street and Mill Place at the southwest corner.

It resembles a Roman Doric column, one hundred feet in height and made of riveted wrought iron plates. The capitol of the column is surmounted by a crown-like iron cresting. The fourteen foot shaft is straight sided and rests on a wrought iron base. The base is fastened with huge bolts to a granite foundation which extends nine feet underground, accommodating the connection to the water main under Hanson Street.

The structure is in excellent condition and still in use. It is painted light blue.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

T-438

ERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1886

Engineer
BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Isaac S. Cassin

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This wrought iron standpipe is significant for its architecture. Also significant is the role the various utilities companies, both private and public, have had in the history of the town of Easton.

The standpipe was constructed in 1886 by the privately owned Easton Water Company as a part of a comprehensive improvement program to provide water for domestic use and for use in fighting fires. The Market Space fire of 1878 had destroyed several structures and generated concern in the town about the need for increased protection. There was also a desire for improved service to homes. The improvement program called for construction of eight inches water mains and smaller branch lines, under major streets, a steam-powered pumping station, and the standpipe. The system, quite advanced for a small town, was designed by Isaac S. Cassin, who was not an Easton resident. The engine house with its steam-driven pumps stood at the site of the present Easton Utilities Company at 219 North Washington Street. The water mains installed at the time still are in use. This area was formerly known as

The standpipe has two functions: improving water pressure and ~~G~~Pitts Bridge. providing large quantities of water for fire-fighting. Its location was selected because of proximity to both the downtown commercial district and to the residential areas of the town. The choice was evidently a good one; Easton was spared the devastating fires which destroyed so many towns and cities in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The symbolism of the ancient Roman column and the crown is interesting for its historical references, and demonstrates the enthusiasm the citizens of the town must have had for this important project.

The plans for this structure exist as does the original map of the water distribution system. Both, signed and dated by Mr. Cassin in April 1886, are now in the possession of the Easton Utilities Company. The standpipe was purchased by the publicly-owned Easton Utilities Company in 1914.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mulliken, James C., A History of the Easton Volunteer Fire Department, (Easton), 1962.
Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE None

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

DATE

August 26, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,
301-822-2706 President

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

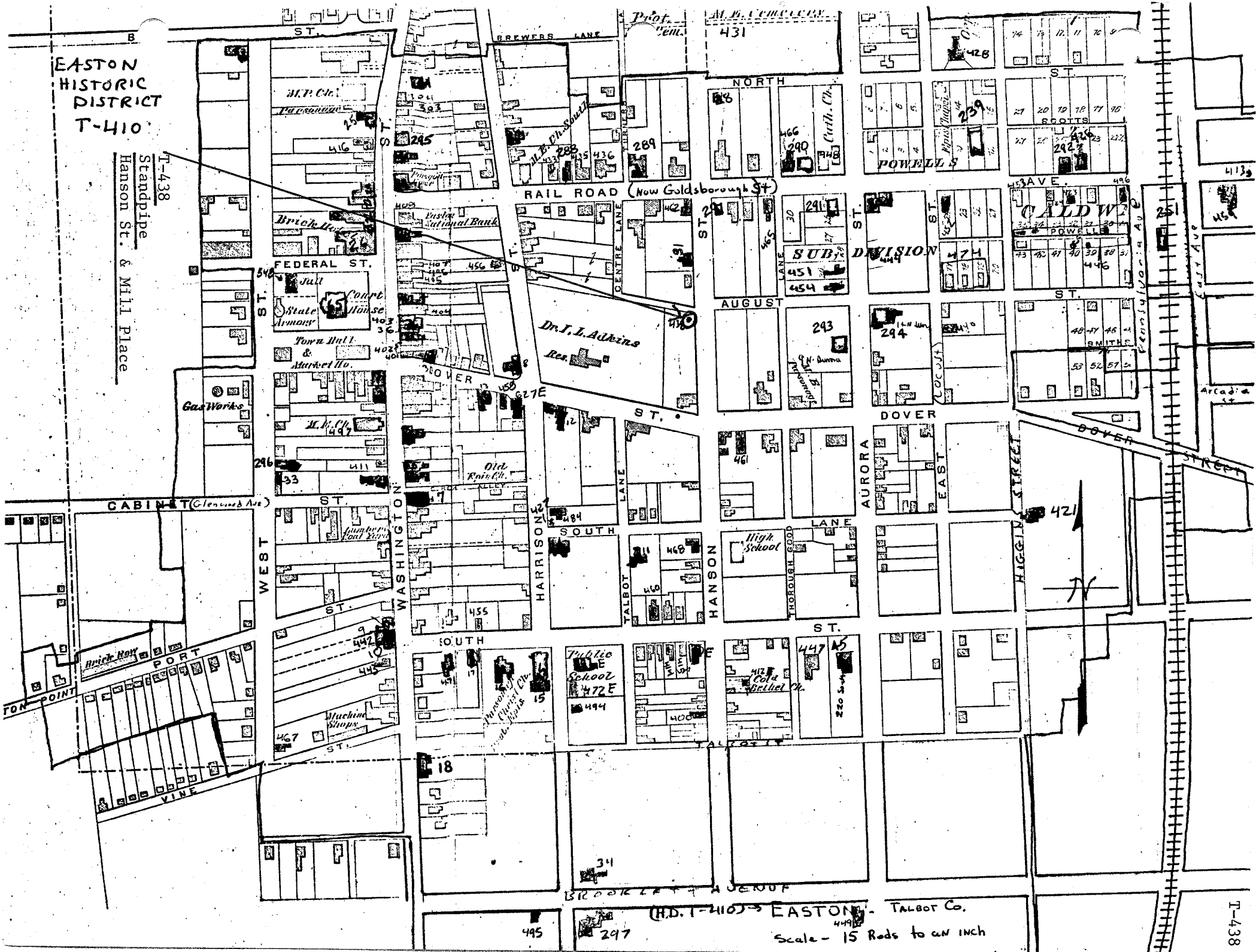
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

**EASTON
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
T-410**

T-438
Standpipe
Hanson St. & Mill Place

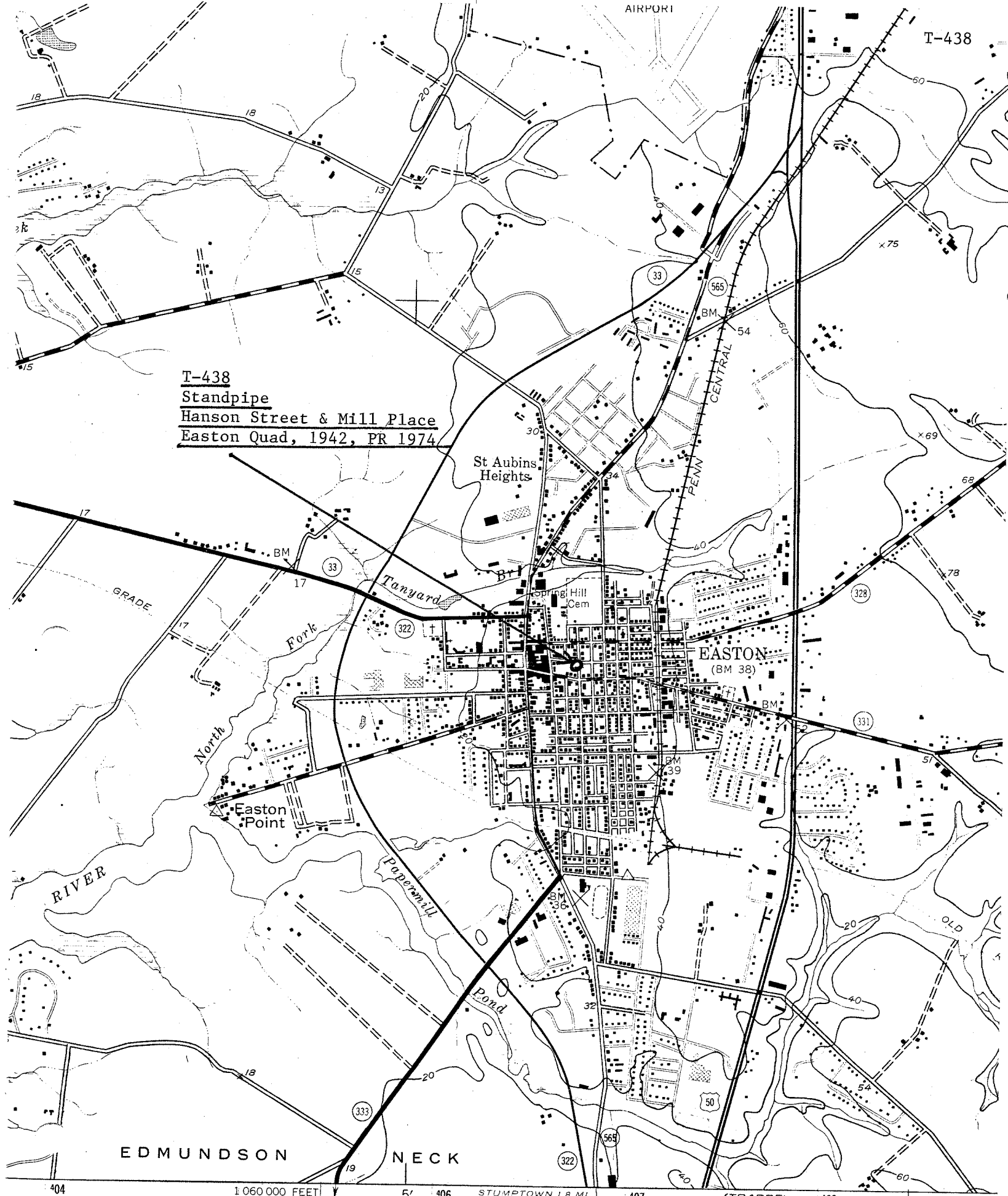


(H.D. T-410) - EASTON - Talbot Co.
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

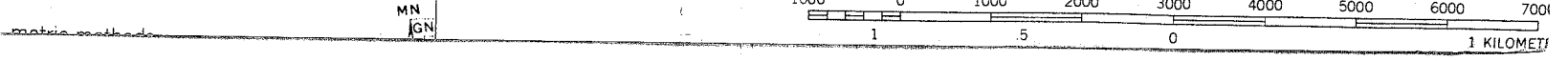
T-438

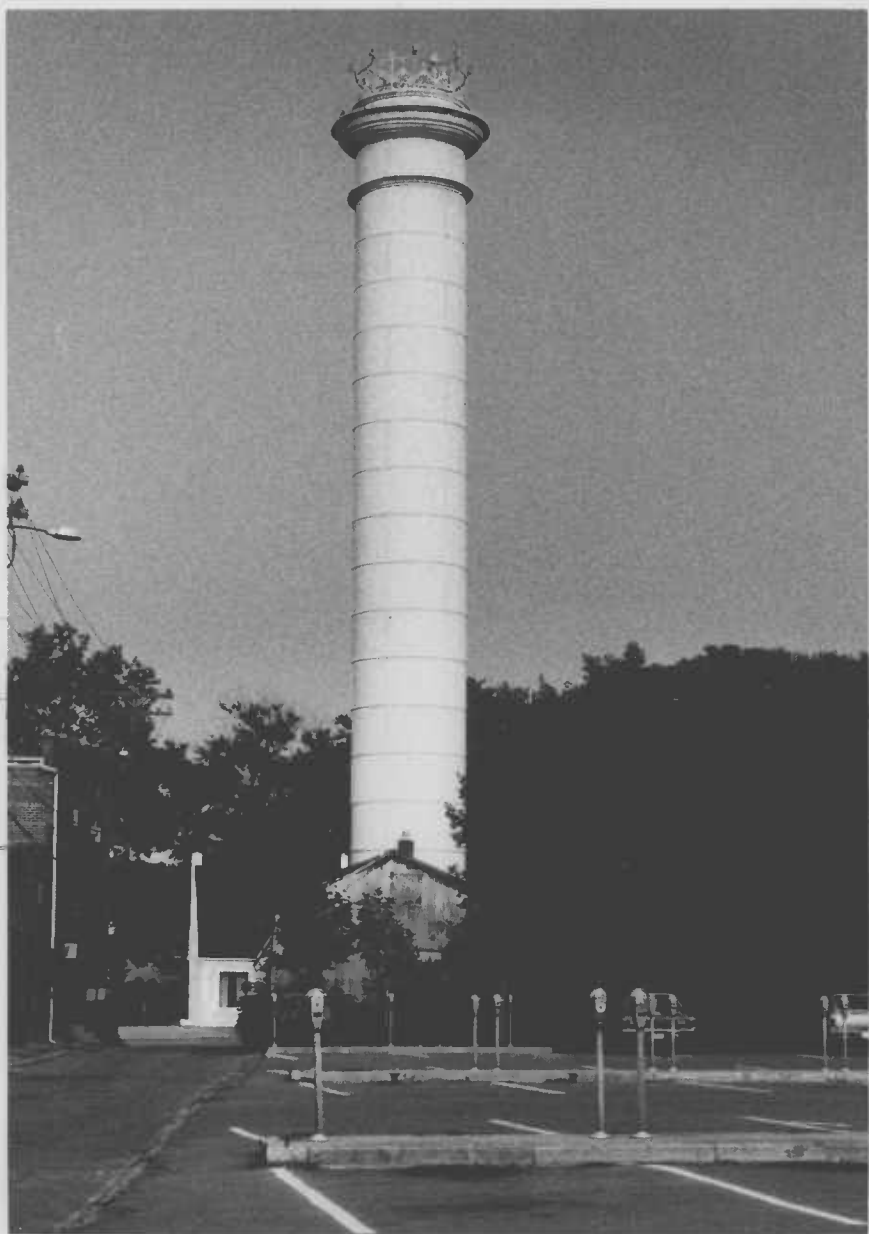
T-438

T-438
Standpipe
Hanson Street & Mill Place
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



vey





13 x 1.96

52%

438

T-438

STAND PIPE

SW CORNER HANSON & MILL

EASTON, MD

AUGUST 1976

MLFRITZ

